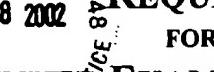


P Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

<p style="text-align: center;"> REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL Address to: Commissioner for Patents BOX RCE Washington, DC 20231 </p> <p style="text-align: right;">  </p>	<i>Application Number</i>	09/063,978
	<i>Filing Date</i>	April 21, 1998
	<i>First Named Inventor</i>	R. J. Obremski, et al.
	<i>Art Unit</i>	1645
	<i>Examiner Name</i>	Hines, J.
	<i>Attorney Docket Number</i>	45D-1750 (81841.0041)

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application.

Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. **Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114**

 - Previously submitted
 - Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 CFR 1.116 previously filed on _____
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
 - Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
 - Other _____
 - Enclosed
 - Preliminary Amendment/Reply
 - Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
 - Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
 - Other _____

2. **Miscellaneous**

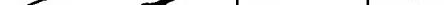
 - Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)
 - Other _____

3. **Fees** The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

 - The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 50-1314
 - RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e) 05/29/2002 AWONDAF1 00000033 09063978
 - Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17) 01 FC:179
 - Other _____ 740.00 OP
 - Check in the amount of \$ 850 enclosed
 - Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

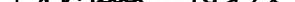
WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name <i>(Print Type)</i>	Wei-Ning Yang	Registration No. (Attorney Agent)	38,690
<i>Signature</i>		Date	May 13, 2002

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Name (Print Type)	Diane Zynn
Signature	

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO